

The Flower from Hell

by SakurasandCards

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Summary: The day he saved her...everything changed. Tsukikage Kazanari was attacked one night, and was saved by Kazama Chikage. Being an Oni from the North, she starts her journey with Kazama through the war, to the North. Just an AU of the original Hakuouki with OCs in it. (Kazama x OC)

1. Chapter 1

**Well...this is the updated version, which I made a whole new document for. I realised the quality of my first few chapters weren't good, and I decided to make plenty of changes, so do read it from the start. I'll only be editing the first 3 chapters, unless I see any problems with my next few. **

As I say again, this my first Hakuouki fanficiton, so I'm really sure about a few things, and I'll improve as I go by.

Disclaimer: I do not own Hakuouki and its characters. Only my OC.

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><p>Kazama's POV

"Those Choshuu and Sastuma idiots are really cowards," Shiranui complained, "The real fight was getting started, and they run?"

"Well, they did try to fight," Amagiri said.

I was listening to Amagiri and Shiranui about their attack at Abura Kouji. I was at the Shinsengumi headquarters, distracting them, and killing the fakes at the same time. It was way more productive than what those two did.

Rasetsu. They didn't deserve to live. They were weak humans who were modified to be like us oni. It was disgusting. The only reason why we chose to help them was to repay our ancestor's debt. They had hidden us when we were attacked.

I wished I could finish the business with them soon, and take Yukimura Chizuru with me. She was too precious to be with those who created the fakes.

However, my thoughts were cut off by Shiranui.

"So, Kazama, what did you did you do at the Shinsengumi headquarters?" Shiranui teased.

"Hmph. fighting the fakes, that's all,"

"Meh, that was way more fun and more useful than trying to kill the Shinsengumi captains at Abura Kouji."

"Hmph."

"By the way, what happened to the trade for the Oni woman?" I asked Amagiri

"It failed. The Shinsengumi Captains were too protective." Amagiri replied.

"They were like, if the girl sacrifices herself for us, we wouldn't look manly and stuff." Shiranui joked.

"Shut up Shiranui. I'll get her next time. Personally."

Soon, we had reached a deserted bridge. Shiranui immediately said, "Well, I'll be off now."

"Hmph."

Amagiri and I had continued walking down towards an inn, as we still had business with the Satsuma. It was then, I felt something. It was a strong force, a strong aura which belonged to an Oni. I turned in that direction where it was coming from, and saw a girl, lying on the ground.

I couldn't say if it was fate. However, that woman intrigued me. The aura she was giving off was strange, and completely different from what an Oni would give off. She felt like a pureblood, but there was something special about it.

We went closer to take a look. Suddenly, Amagiri gasped.

"Someone you know?"

"Not exactly, but this aura; she is a pureblood. I wonder what she's doing outside in a night like this."

"Amagiri. We're getting this girl to an inn."

"Yes." With that, Amagiri had carried her and we were walking towards the nearest inn.

Once we got a room, Amagiri set the girl down in a futon. Amagiri immediately took off to his business, which he said he needed to do so immediately.

"He won't be back until dawn, I guess." I thought.

Studying her looks, she was quite a refined woman. Her facial features were elegant, and she was beautiful, in a way. However, her aura did not seem to match her looks.

I decided to get her swords out from her waist to make her more comfortable.

As soon as I touched them, there was a strong power trying to push me back. I released my oni powers by a little, and the sword knew my superiority. It had to be demon steel. What else could have such power? I then tested it on my finger. I made a slit and blood flowed out without the wound closing.

Suddenly, something strange happened. Sparkles had swirled around my finger, and they slowly made my wound close up.

I looked around. There was nothing weird or any suspicious person around. Then, I looked at the girl. She didn't budge.

"What ifâ€¦hmm."

"Looks like you'll have a lot of questions to answer tomorrow, oni woman."

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><p>That's it for the first chapter! Please do write a review for me to improve!

2. Chapter 2

Here's the second updated Chapter. Well, for my story, I'll be writing the Shogunate as "The Bakufu", in its Japanese terms. Well, thats all for now, so enjoy the chapter! This chapter will be shorter than the previous, but it will be continued in the next one!

Disclaimer: I do not own Hakuouki and its characters.

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><p>Kanari's POV

"I never regretted helping youâ€¦!" he muttered under a pale sakura tree.

Whoâ€¦was that man? His face was unclear and blurry. Why was I dreaming about him in the first place?

I opened my eyes slowly and found myself in a room, tucked in a futon. My head was heavy and the last thing I remembered was fighting some ronin.

"Another weird dream, huh?" I thought. It was then I realised that my sash was undone and my swords were at the side of the futon.

"You're finally awake, Oni woman," a voice said.

I turned to see a man. He was staring outside the window, looking at the scenery.

I screamed. "Ahhhhhhh! Hentai! What the hell did you do to me?!"

Before I managed to grab my sword to hit him, he grabbed me firmly to his chest and covered my mouth tightly, and pushed me to a corner.

His grip was firm. I couldn't even move an inch, even if I used my Oni strength.

"Shut Up. Or they'll find you." He muttered.

I stood there in his grip, a little embarrassed that I was in such a position with a man. We were hiding in a corner, which was a blind spot from the entrance.

There was a lot of commotion outside, of ronin running up and down inside the inn. Suddenly, the doors crashed open and the ronin looked around for a moment. They didn't see us and they left.

Hmmmâ€¦ I had seen them before. They were the ronin which assaulted me last night! I was thinking really hard, trying to recall their faces when the man said smugly, "How long do you plan on being in my arms? Are you that in love with me?"

I immediately jumped out of his loosened grip in a flash. "Of course not! Who the hell would want to be in a nameless hentai's arms!?"

"I'm Kazama Chikage. Leader of the west Oni clan."

"K-Kazama?! I didn't know thatâ€¦|sorry. My name is Tsukikage Kazanari, next leader of the north Oni clan."

"The Tsukikage clan's daughter? What's a North oni like you in Kyoto? What's more, lying in an alley at night?"

"How about you?! What's a west Oni doing here?"

"It doesn't concern you, oni woman. Now get back to my question."

"Why should I tell you? This doesn't concern you either!"

"You are really rude. Looks like I overestimated you to be a refined lady."

"What did you say?"

"I don't have time to waste with you, unless you want me to leave you here by yourself. I was trying to help you though. "

"Argh! Fine! My family was asked to send someone to help the Bakufu as they needed reinforcements soon for the war."

"So your family is tied with the Bakufu. You're really naïve and unaware of the situation, oni woman."

"What?!"

"Didn't you know that the Bakufu has already returned their power to the Imperial Court, and don't plan on fighting anymore?"

"Huh? Since when?"

"Hmm! This was probably a trap. The Bakufu knew that your family was far too dangerous and powerful, and anything could happen to them if you guys were around. They had planned on disposing the whole clan from the beginning. You couldn't even see through that?"

"What?!"

I fell to my knees. This couldn't have happened. We were too gullible. What could have happened to my parents? Those many thoughts ran through my mind. Tears were falling down my cheeks.

At that moment, the door slid open. A man with red hair came in, shocked at my sight. He immediately ran towards me, and whispered into my ear, "Your family is alright. Don't worry." He then hugged me tightly, in his arms.

That voice! It had to be him. I soon melted into his arms and muttered softly, while shivering, "Amagiri-nii!"

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><p>Haha...so we find out Amagiri has a relationship with the heroine. Do read the next one to find out more!

3. Chapter 3

Here is the updated Chapter. I shifted a certain issue to a later chapter, but all the previous readers should know if you remember. Well then, here is it!

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><p>Kazama's POV

I stared at the two of them blankly, continued by sighing at them. I had heard a soft "Amagiri-nii" coming from Tsukikage. Now I had a lot more to ask about from the both of them. I knew that Amagiri had guarded many families but Tsukikage?

"Kazama. Did you scare her?" Amagiri said.

"No. I just told her plainly that the Tsukikage clan might be in danger, and the what the Bakufu could have had in mind. That's all."

This was then continued by Amagiri trying to calm Tsukikage down. What a happy reunion. Soon, Tsukikage had calmed down, and was in her cranky self.

"Hmph" she muttered as she turned away from me.

"We should sit down and eat. You guys must be hungry."

Me and Tsukikage stared at each other in annoyance.

"Sit down and eat, and we shall clear each other's doubts." Amagiri continued in a cold tone.

You didn't want to mess with him when he was that angry. I immediately complied and sat down without a word.

"If Amagiri-nii says so," Tsukikage complained.

The food soon came from the inn and we soon started eating. Amagiri looked like he had calmed down, and I decided to start off the conversation.

"So, Tsukikage, how did you get here in the first place?" I asked.

"I got a map on how to get here. And now my map's lost. Because of those ronin." She sounded quite pissed off.

"Kanari." Amagiri said firmly.

"Fine, whatever Amagiri-nii."

"You know the way back to the North?"

"No. I've never been further from Sendai. Father doesn't allow me to go out further than that, to keep away from the humans."

"Don't make me laugh. Then why did your people even cooperate with the Bakufu?"

"W-What?! We didn't have a choice! They were planning on burning our village down!"

"But they still wanted to destroy your clan in the end."

"It was a miscalculation on our part."

"Fine. Don't you know how to teleport? You can get back as fast as lightning."

"I don't know how to use that power, although I'm a pureblood. It gets me dizzy and everything."

I decided to drop the matter about Tsukikage and pursue in the matter of Amagiri's relationship with Tsukikage instead.

"Amagiri. It's your turn. What's your relationship with Tsukikage?"

"Well, I was a bodyguard to the next heir to the Tsukikage and I was tasked in protecting her. However, we separated 6 years ago. I never thought I could actually meet her again."

So, a bodyguard. I didn't know that Amagiri had such a great past with that cranky girl.

"So, what should we do about her now?"

"I suggest that we should take her with us. War could break out anytime around here, and she might get caught in it. The Tsukikage clan's current whereabouts are currently unknown, and even she reaches the north, she may not know where they are."

"Are you saying that in the position as oni or as her previous bodyguard?"

"It is the sake of protecting our kind."

I sighed. "Fine. We're going to bring you back to your village. It's only for the purpose of preserving our kind. We're getting out of this inn as soon as possible."

I had more matters to do in the first place. Yukimura Chizuru was currently my main priority, and I needed to get her soon. Once I got her, I had no more business with the humans. Besides, Amagiri could still get Tsukikage home, since he was the only one who could keep her in check.

While we were walking out, I decided to ask Tsukikage about her powers.

"By the way, Tsukikage, what is that healing power of yours? Explain." The minute I said that, Amagiri's eyebrow twitched.

"What healing power? I don't know what you're talking about." Tsukikage said.

"You can't lie. That healing power of yours healed my cut when I was testing your Demon Steel yesterday night."

"Why did you touch my demon steel last night?"

"I was just intrigued by that interesting weapon of yours. Now go back to my question."

"I said I don't know! Stop asking me!"

How could she be unaware about her own powers? That power of hers could be seen so obviously and yet she didn't know about it? It was extremely weird. Had her memory been erased?

Amagiri was soon done with the payment and we set off to the next town. Tsukikage looked like an eager little who was going on a trip to town, and was busy talking to Amagiri. She totally looked more interested in talking to Amagiri, and both of them were ignoring me.

Once we were done with the business with the humans, I decided that I would get Chizuru and get out of their way. Tsukikage could be left with Amagiri.

"This is going to be a long trip." I thought while sighing.

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><p>This is the final updated chapter. Well, unless I feel that there is another quality issue with my work, I might edit it again, but I hope not. I'll try to keep the quality the same as much as possible. Well then, on to the next Chapter!

4. Chapter 4

Sorry for the long wait! Here is the fourth chapter, I hope you enjoy it! I updated the first 3 chapters by a lot, so you could go back and read it all over again. I just felt that the quality of the first three chapters weren't good, so I decided to update them by a lot. This is the first fight scene, so the quality won't be so good. I'm really sorry!

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><p>Kanari's POV

"Oi Tsukikage, don't stray off too far."

Kazama's questioning was annoying enough, and now he was ordering me around to stay in front, in his sight.

"Stop giving me orders! And stop calling me Tsukikage! I have a name. Kazanari. In short, Kanari."

"Hmph. Fine. You know your body size is too small. In a way."

"What? That's why I didn't like you from the beginning, that teasing is getting on my nerves." I wanted to punch his face.

While I was running towards him to land a blow, Kazama countered by flipping me over.

"Ow! You didn't need to be that hard!" I shouted.

"I didn't use much strength. You were just too light," he said with a smirk on his face.

Suddenly, we heard some sounds of shuffling through the bushes. Suddenly, we were surrounded by a group of ronin. Studying their appearance, I knew they were the ones who attacked me last night.

"We won't be letting you go today!" one of them shouted at me.

"I'm sorry, but all of you are going to have to die, taking on an

opponent like me!" I shouted confidently.

However, the situation was more serious than previously. They had around 20 men surrounding me, ready to attack. Suddenly, one of them lunged at me.

I immediately reacted to that, returning the blow using my katana, causing a loud clang to sound. This was continued with continuous clashing of swords, with me stabbing them one by one. If they really wanted to kill me, I had to dispose of them.

All of a sudden, one man came from behind me. I immediately drew out my short sword, and stabbed him. However, there was one more from beside me and I was slow to react.

Right in front of me, Kazama knocked him down using his hands, took the man's sword and stabbed him. He continued with some more attacks with the sword he got and finished up the rest quickly.

"Too weak. Your reaction's too slow," Kazama said while smirking.

"You didn't bother using your sword."

"They were small fry."

"Your skill improved, Kazanari," Amagiri said.

"Well, I did go through some training from my mother thoughâ€¦|didn't know it worked that well."

"We should leave soon. We don't want anyone to find out about us."

We had a long walk. It was a while before we could reach the nearest town, and it was dark. We managed to find an abandoned hut to get rest. After we settled, Amagiri took off.

"Does he always do that every day?" I asked.

"Yes. It is to gather information or any news with the Satsuma. Don't know when he even actually sleeps."

I went to get firewood from the outside, since Kazama was too lazy to do it. However, it was pitch dark when I was done. I had my weapon with me, but I wasn't sure if anyone was out there to attack me.

Suddenly, I saw a shadow at the corner of my eye. I dashed towards it hurriedly. When I was about to attack it with my dagger, the shadows' hand caught it.

"Not fast enough. Again."

Kazama. I sighed and wriggled my hand out of his grip, keeping my dagger.

"Girls shouldn't be out in the dark so long."

"We needed firewood, you should be glad I bothered to get it. We

wouldn't be warm without wood. Why did you come here for? I can handle going back alone."

"You should be glad that I bothered to come pick you up."

Argh. He was annoying as usual. "It's not like I needed you to help me!"

"Whatever. This shall save us some time." Kazama then grabbed me close, and we teleported back to the hut. I got dizzy right after it.

"Don't do that again, my head hurts now!" I squealed. He simply ignored me.

I looked at the hut. There was a fireplace, and a single, worn out futon. I didn't know where that came from. I started a fire, and started cleaning my sword. Soon, it was done, and I decided to rest up.

However, when I turned around to rest, the bastard Kazama was already in it.

"I'm sleeping on the floor," I declared.

"Get in." he muttered.

"You hentai! What do you plan on doing?! I'd rather sleep on the floor than sleep in the same futon as you!"

"Just get in." he complained, as he grabbed my arm harshly and pulled me into the futon.

"Oiiii! Stop it! Get off me!" I squealed as I struggled in his grip."

"I'm only doing this because Amagiri is going to kill me tomorrow if you fall sick because of the cold."

Kazama's arm suddenly slid behind me and pushed me closer to him. I flushed.

"You better not do anything or I'll really murder you tomorrow." Kazama chuckled upon hearing that.

"I'm only interested in one woman as my wife. Not you. You're too brutal to be my wife. Unless you want me to take you away?"

"Take me away?! No way! I wouldn't want to be with a hentai like you! And who's that woman you're interested in?" I squealed while still flushing.

"Shut up and stop moving and I'll tell you tomorrow."

"Hmph."

I saw Kazama chuckle a bit and let out a smirk.

"He's really annoying," I thought as I closed my eyes.

The next morning, I woke up to see Kazama cuddling me like an idiot.

"Get off me you baka!"

Kazama had just woke up, and he said, " You really make a very nice thing for cuddling."

"Whaâ€|? You just harassed me you hentai!"

Without saying a thing, he got up and muttered, " Amagiri isn't here yet. Something must be up."

I decided to get out of the hut for a while. Kazama's annoying talk was starting to get me extremely angry. Suddenly, Amagiri came into the hut and said, " I have news to report. Apparently, the Satsuma wants us to stay in Kyoto."

* * *

><p>Hope you enjoyed that! As usual, please do review!

5. Chapter 5

Sorry for the long wait! I was busy studying and stuff and had a few blocks in the middle of this, and I had some trouble sorting out my thoughts. Well, enjoy!

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><p>Kazama's POV

Well, that was annoying. I saw Kanari sighing as she heard the news, and walked out immediately. I then asked Amagiri, "Why did they decide that?"

"Apparently, the Choshuu and Satsuma as busy preparing for a war which might probably come anytime. And due the restoration of imperial rule, it's still undefined whether the Bakufu army will remain as the imperial army."

"Not that we have a choice. We need to repay our debt to the Satsuma. And after that, we will go back into hiding."

"I'll continue trying to find where the Tsukikage has relocated to. And I'll send word back home." Amagiri then left.

I then decided to walk out of that stuffy hut. However, something told me that Kanari wasn't alright.

"She'd probably be taking a bath right now," I thought, as I teleported through the forest to the nearest fountain.

However, to my dismay, Kanari was lying on one of the rocks naked, with several dead men sprawled around her. She was unconscious.

Ignoring the dumb humans, I carried her and got her clothes, and walked back to the hut.

"This woman is really annoying," I thought.

Once I reached the hut, I touched her forehead and realised she had a fever.

"Why do I have to do this," I muttered.

I got a wet cloth and put it on her forehead, and got her into the futon. Her body was sure weak. Oni didn't really catch colds, and yet she caught a cold staying the cold for too long. I decided to wait for Amagiri to come back for answers.

When Amagiri returned, he was shocked to Kazanari unconscious and his mouth was wide open. He immediately ran to her side to check on her, and questioned me, "Kazama, what did you do to her?"

"Nothing. She found her unconscious at the fountain she was bathing at. There were men dressed in white all around her from what I saw."

"So, that healing power? And why she fainted last night? Even if she is a girl, her demon powers are strong and those ronin would have been done with easily."

"This could be similar to what happened two nights ago—is it because of that?"

"Are you hiding something from me?"

"Since it has come to this, I shall tell you about it now. The healing powers, and a portion of the reason why she fainted that night. Kazanari's healing powers come from the previous generation of the Tsukikages. All the females of the family are gifted this power and they can heal different injuries. However, I'm only partly sure about that, but it seems that she has a special power inside of her. There was once where she was really angry and fought her brother. Her power overloaded and she was unconscious for 3 days."

"What is that power?"

"For that, I do not know. They usually tell me a lot of things, but they kept this issue under wraps and only told me to look out for her when she was fighting. Apparently this issue can only be told to the members of the Tsukikage clan."

"The Tsukikages usually keep many things under wraps, especially who their heirs are, but I didn't expect them to not talk about these issues, especially to someone close like you."

"After all, I am still an outsider from another clan to them. But her parents were kind enough to tell me that much about her, and I'm thankful. "

Well, she might have some power within her, despite her size."

"Kazama, I'll need you to help me take care of her right now, because

we need to find someone from her clan fast, since I don't know when she will wake up again. The overload can even cause her to sleep for months."

I sighed again. It wasn't my style to take care of women in the first place. I could have used this time for more useful things, such as finding Chizuru. That was just an excuse. The Shinsengumi was the reason why I was always wanting to go to their headquarters. They had such interesting men.

Soon it was dark, and it was extremely quiet today. I decided to take a rest on the floor, since Kazanari was using the futon. Suddenly, I heard someone call out my name.

"Kazama Chikage." I looked around. It couldn't be coming from Kazanari, and there was no one around. I had to be hearing things.

"Kazama Chikage." I turned to Kazanari. To my astonishment, she was awake.

"Oh, you're awake, what's up with you calling me by my full name, Kazanari?"

"I'm not Kazanari."

What? Did she have amnesia after that overload? Her voice and looks were exactly the same, how could she not be Kazanari? I turned to look at her again, and this time, I noticed the colour of her eyes. They had turned from blood red, to a dark purple.

"Who the hell are you?"

"Relax dear, I'm the ancient Oni who is currently residing in dear Kazanari's body right now. Kill me, and she dies too."

"What? All ancient Oni should have died centuries ago—how did you revive?"

"No—we are special. Due to the never-ending clash of light and dark, we keep reviving in 2 families to continue this never ending fight—for no reason—because there was never a winner."

"I have heard of that legend before, of the two families, light and dark, fighting for the rule over all Oni. I didn't know it was true."

"It used to be like that, until we decided not to fight over the rule of the Oni. Now, only hatred is left at the side of the light. However, I still cannot defeat him, and I do not know why."

"Has light become evil?"

"Yes. I'm the Kage-hime, the princess of darkness, and the lord of the light wants to kill me for his pure satisfaction. We both agreed to a truce, but why—"

This princess sure was interesting. I decided to divulge a bit more about the legend between light and dark, and the relation between that legend and the Tsukikage clan.

"So, why are you telling me all of this? I believe that this is a secret between you and the clans involved in this fight, or war, as you call."

"It's because I feel an immense power coming from you. Besides, your blood smells extremely tasty." She whispered as she came closer to me.

"Did ancient oni do that previously?"

"We only did that to the ones we liked—such as you—"

"I'll let you have my blood, since you are a far superior oni compared to me."

The Kage-hime came towards my neck slowly, still in Kazanari's body. Her fangs shone in the darkness as they sank into my neck. There was a short pain, but it soon resided.

"You know the Kazanari who currently inside of you isn't going to be very happy." She didn't reply to that, as she was busy sucking away.

After a while, she soon spoke. "I believe she's okay with it, since she has been holding back herself from drinking any for 2 weeks."

My eyes widened. "So the Tsukikages got your traits, and had to drink blood, huh? You sound like those Rasetsu."

"Ancient Oni used to drink each other's blood to retain our youthfulness. You are a pureblood, aren't you? Like Kazanari. No wonder your blood's so tasty." The Kage-hime said as she wiped the existing blood from the side of her mouth.

"Are you going to tell me more about yourself yet?"

"Be patient, dear. The members of the Tsukikage clan are my direct descendants. In order to continue the battle, I had to reborn in one of the descendants every generation. But I don't understand; I used light to destroy the king of light already, I should have been able to rest. Furthermore, the family of light should have been destroyed too. Why did they still attack us?"

"Interesting. Would you allow me to check up about your history? However, I'll need to know your name."

"I'll allow you to, since I don't feel any evil from you. My real name is—Kazuri. And—I sense someone coming. I shall withdraw for now. Kazanari will awake soon."

"If you say so," I muttered.

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><p>As per usual, hope you enjoyed it! Do review!

****Well this Chapter starts off with what happened before Kanari fainted as her dream. So don't get confused!****

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><p>Kazanari's POV

I was by the fountain, and had taken off my clothing to take a bath at the fountain. I had walked out of the hut immediately, since Kazama and Amagiri were discussing serious matters where I did not want to bother with. I had brought my Kodachi and my throwing knives for self-defence, just in case someone attacked.

I sighed. Why did I have to tag along with that Kazama to go home in the first place, when Amagiri could just take me home?

However, while I was thinking, I sensed a presence close by. It was closing in towards me. I went closer to my weapons. I took the throwing knives and threw them towards the presence. It hit, and I heard some sounds of a person growling in pain.

I thought that I was safe, until some men dressed in white surrounded me. They didn't make any sounds, they were just closing in on me to attack.

"Dammit, now I'm surrounded, and they're seeing me naked. Either way, I needed to get rid of them." I thought.

The group of men closed in on me, and tried to attack, when my chest glowed a dark, velvet purple.

"Dammit, not now!" I shouted internally. This wasn't the time for her out yet. This was a dangerous situation, and she wanted to come out now? I tried to hold her back, while fending off those men.

"Whyâ€|why won't you use me, Kazanari? I'm your strength, and I can help you get out of this dangerous situation now."

"Noâ€|not yet! Don'tâ€|" I screamed. Soon, I felt myself sinking deep into the darkness, and I was slowly falling. "Don'tâ€|hurt anyoneâ€|pleaseâ€|"

"Ah!" I woke up with a startle. What was that? Was that the memory of what happened? My brain was fuzzy and I didn't know what was going on around me. Ahâ€|this was the hut. Kazama was by the side of my futon, and he was rubbing his neck for some reason.

I thought, "Everyone thinks that I won't have any memory of what happened, so I'll play dumb for now. It's not the timeâ€|to talk about it yet."

I began to pretend that I had woken up. Kazama had turned around and said, "Took you long enough to wake up, Kazanari." I shrugged it off.

Before I could even say a word, Kazama went outside to do something. I didn't know what that was, but it was weird for a guy like him to do so.

Ignoring him, I decided to get out of the futon to do a bit of stretching, when Amagiri came back. He was astonished to see me awake, and exclaimed, "Kazanari! Are you alright? I was worried when you couldn't wake up."

"I feel better now. Much better, in fact." I replied.

He heaved a sigh of relief and asked, "Where's Kazama?"

"Don't know. He went outside to do something, and he isn't back yet."

Amagiri had brought some food back for us to eat, and I sat on the floor eating while waiting for Kazama. Soon, he returned, but unfortunately, with a bloody Katana.

"You're late. And what happened? You look like you got into a bad fight."

"Found some people lurking outside the hut, and I went to dispose of them. I believe that we should move our location soon, as more people are finding us."

Amagiri had the answer to that question. "I managed to make contact with one of my acquaintances who lives in Kyoto, and he is willing loan us his house when he is away. We should go there."

"Is he an oni?"

"He is. He will be leaving the state for quite a while, so we can stay over there until there are further orders from the Satsuma."

I didn't say a word throughout the conversation. I merely nodded and we soon set off to get back to Kyoto. Amagiri had left us alone again as he had "matters to attend to". Being someone's right-hand man was much tougher than a bodyguard, huh?

Once again, Kazama didn't say a single word. It was weird, he would usually comment about something that was annoying about me or something like "I should improve on my fighting skills", but he didn't. He looked like he was in deep thought, and looked like he was in a very serious thought. I decided to ignore him and continue walking, until he asked, "Kazanari, do you know anything about your origins?"

That was certainly a weird question. Why was he asking this now? Did he want to know something about my family? I couldn't tell him about the Kage-hime inside me. She had been inside me since I was five, and she was a spirit that only the Tsukikage clan knows about. The war between light and dark, was still continuing between the two families. I wanted to tell Kazama all about it, but I had to hold myself back. I decided to play dumb.

"Not much, my parents didn't tell me much about our origins and history, and I don't really know."

"Hmmmâ€¦I see." Right after that, he continued to be in deep thought. He was actually unnaturally normal after I woke up. I wanted to question him a lot, but I decided not to.

Soon, we reached Kyoto. The Shinsengumi headquarters was in this area. We soon got to the place where the mansion was, and Amagiri was there, waiting for us. Well those "matters" were extremely fast. Kazama had been quiet throughout the whole trip and it was still really weird not hearing him say anything.

We walked into that mansion without a sound. Amagiri was puzzled by the quietness of Kazama, but he never did ask him what was going on his mind.

"We're free to use the things in this house, since you have a much purer oni bloodline, it's natural that we let have the comfort."

Kazama smirked and walked inside. I just sighed and continued on walking inside. At least, we have somewhere proper to rest now. The fact that pureblood Onis get treated much better than any other oni was quite unfair, and I didn't like it either.

Once we walked in, Kazama walked off to someplace where I didn't know. I decided to ask Amagiri some questions.

"Amagiri-nii, what's up with Kazama right now? And have you guys come here before?"

"I'm not sure about Kazama, but this is Shiranui's place. His sister lent it to him for usage and we're currently using it. The fact about the owner going on the trip isn't true."

"Waitâ€¦so this is the Shiranui family's property?"

"If you didn't know, the Kazama family is related to the Shiranui family. Shiranui and Kazama were childhood friends. But their personalities are two ends of the same pole."

"Hmâ€¦Thanks, Amagiri-nii."

With that, everyone went on to their own activities. I decided to get a bath, since my last one was disturbed by those men. I got a towel, and a change of clothing, and proceeded to the indoor bath. I had removed my clothing and walked into the bathroom when I realizedâ€¦Kazama was in there.

"Hyaaaaaa!" I screamed.

Kazama turned his head to look at me. "Didn't you realize that I was in the bath?"

"I didn't see your clothes, or any signs of you to show that you were in the bath."

"Whatever. Get in."

"What? We can't in the same bath together at the same time! It's wrong!"

Kazama then came out of the water, and moved to another bath which had a lower depth. He sank his feet into the water, and said, "I'll be over here, you can have the warmer bath. I don't want Amagiri to get mad at me for catching a cold."

The same excuse as previously again. His face obviously looked like he had cared about me, and he wasn't admitting it.

"Fine," I muttered.

I moved towards the bigger bath, and sank into the water, face extremely flushed. I could just listen to him, right? It wasn't that much of a big deal. But there was one thing I had concluded, he really was a pervert.

* * *

><p>Well that ended nicely! Hope you enjoyed this chapter! Please do review since I really want to know what you guys think about his story. ^0^

7. Chapter 7

I'm really sorry that I haven't updated in a long while! Exams came, then new things in my life, followed by tons of disappointment which gave me a total writer's block. I really hope you enjoy this chapter, or maybe not because this includes a very interesting bedtime story. Also, I'll be introducing Shiranui's sister (okay I came up with that xDDDD) who's currently trying to hide from the humans.

Please, enjoy!

* * *

><p>Kazama's POV

Looking at Kazanari's embarrassed face flushed tomato red, I held back a chuckle. I didn't want to get hit at such a time. I had held her back in the indoor bath, as I had noticed the markings on her back. It was a mark of a dark purple dragon, themed after the Kage-hime. I had to ask her about that.

"So, what did you want to ask me?" Kazanari asked.

"Those markings on your back, what are those?"

"Those? It's my birthmarks, and my mother says that it's related to my power, that's all."

"Oh, is that all to it? They look more interesting than what it should be."

"That's all about it! I don't know anything about what it does or anything! My parents didn't tell me anything at all and neither I know anything about it!"

"If you say so." Soon after finishing my sentence, I left the indoor bath. Kazanari was really cute at times, and her reaction to being in

the same bath. It was just a joke, and I didn't think she would take it that seriously.

I put on a change of clothes. I decided to head to the library. Shiranui's sister, who claimed to be out on a trip, was there doing some reading. She was a wiser and older oni compared to me, and I respected her a lot, compared to her younger brother.

"I believe you were out on a trip, Ryo-san."

"Oh, that? I made that as an excuse, since the Choshuu had heard of my powers, and are after me so that they will have a higher chance of winning the coming war, but I have no reason to be meddling in the issues of humans, unlike Kyo."

"I understand your feelings."

"By the way, I heard that the young lady of the Tsukikage is here as you brought her along. Is that true?"

"Yes. Not that I wanted to bring her along with me."

"Could I request of you to allow me to meet her?"

"She's what you call, amazingly approachable, if you understand what I mean. However, I would like you to share some knowledge with me."

"What kind? I can spare as much as I know."

I decided to ask her about the war for the leadership of all Oni. Ryo-san had given me a lot of information before, and her library was extremely reliable in terms of information.

"About the war among the strongest clans—why do you want to know this kind of information in the first place?"

"It's about the Tsukikage girl."

She looked slightly taken aback by my words. "So—the rumors were true—the Tsukikages indeed had some kind of relationship with the history. Could you tell me more?"

"I'm sorry, but I cannot say anymore from that, until I can confirm everything that is true."

"Ah—I see. The books relating to that history, are placed over there. You can look at them as much as you like. However, please do not be shocked, as there are some really interesting information inside the ones over there."

"What do you mean?"

"You may have known the legends that were simply rewritten, but the truth—is more than what you know." She said with a very low and dry tone.

So Ryo-san was aware of that history. I was in the age where purebloods were the leaders of the Oni, and I didn't really know much. Maybe I could clarify those doubts here, and find out the truth

for the Kage-hime.

I had only started on the first book I had found, and my questions were all answered.

About 700 years ago, it was the age where all Oni were ruled under one clan. However, this title was only given to those clans whose bloodlines were pure. Every 10 years, there would be a competition held to decide the clan which was going to rule over all the Oni. Among all the clans which participated, there was one reigning one, thanks to their leader " The Kage-hime. The Kage-hime was quite a young Oni among everyone there, yet, she reigned the battlefield, and always took the leadership. She was engaged to a man named Kouki.

Kouki was from another clan who was on good terms with the Kage-hime's clan, and they were childhood friends. He was the one who was only on par with the Kage-hime, but he would let up his position to the Kage-hime most of the time.

Soon, time passed, and many clans grew tired of the competition for the leadership of all Oni, since they were too scared of the Kage-hime. However, on the other hand, Kouki was stressed by his clan to go and steal the position of leader from the Kage-hime, even though she was his fiancée. His clan wasn't too certain to let a woman lead, during those times. Because of this, he consulted the Kage-hime for a solution, and they decided to get married as soon as possible, so that there would be a bond between the 2 clans, and no one could question the Kage-hime's rule anymore.

Sadly, Kouki was still being stressed by his own clan to take the position of leader, as he continued to let the Kage-hime rule. He then decided travel, and look for a new power, before he could officially face the Kage-hime as her husband. This however, led to something even worse that happened. While he was out on his journey to strengthen himself, Kouki gained a forbidden power. It was the power of light " a sealed power which no Oni was supposed to use. Oni were powerful, and yet, they couldn't stand the power of light.

Also, the power of light had a very negative effect on an Oni's body. Kouki was doing very well after he came back, hiding the fact that he gained the power of light, but the newfound power soon got to him. That power had corrupted him, and he was killing Oni that he saw that was a hindrance to him. The people were scared of him, as they had no ways to counter those dangerous powers. They begged the Kage-hime to kill him, but she couldn't. Who could kill a man that you had once loved? No one.

However, being pressured by many clans, the Kage-hime decided to gather all her courage, and exile the entire clan, cancelling the engagement along with it. Who she was married to after that is unknown, but Kouki's power went out of control while he was exiled. Without anyone watching Kouki, his power had gone out of control, and he grew hatred for the Kage-hime instead. That was 30 years later, and she already had a few children together with her new husband. However, she felt it. The feeling, that light was about to return.

_Clearing up her own mess, she decided to go and find Kouki and

settle things once and for all. She had learnt that the only way to defeat light was to learn the art of light itself and destroy the person, and she went to do so. However, that light of hers was an evil one too. The Kage-hime then went to confront Kouki, and killed him._

His last words were, exactly as goes, "I won't ever forgive you, Kage-hime. I trusted you so much, but you didn't help me. Weren't you, mine? Be mineâ€|forever."

Soon after, the Kage-hime sealed herself inside a cave near the place where she battled Kouki, and the beautiful carving that was left behind after she sealed herself is still there to this age, near the place where the clan the Kage-hime's clan is living now, in the north.

Howevâ€|

Before I could continue reading the next line after the ending, a voice rang in my head.

"You have seen too much, leader of the Kazama."

Before I knew it, my head was blank.

I was awakened to the sound of Ryo-san, and she was slapping me awake.

"It's rare to see you doze off like that, Chikage. What happened? I left for a while when you were still reading to have a chat with Amagiri, and you were on the floor."

Ugh. I had let her see the awful side of me.

"I simply do not know. As I was reading this particular book about the history, I heard a voice ring inside my head to go any further."

Ryo-san had picked up the book, and her eyes widened as she looked at it in detail.

"The contentsâ€|are missing." She said.

I stood up, and looked at the book as well. It was completely blank. Ryo-san then said, "Then the rumours had to be true. This book â€|limits how much a person can see, and erases itself when someone has seen too much. Someone must have been a spell on it to do so."

"Is there any way to reverse it?" I replied.

"No. I don't think so, since its ancient magic, and I don't know myself either. Looks like we will just have to give up on this matter. It's another book wasted, I guess. Well then, shall we go and see the princess of darkness now? Since Kyo just came back with some desserts."

"As you say so."

Soon, I was walking out of the library together with Ryo-san, as I recalled whatever that I had read in my mind. This story was far too

intriguing. Looks like the Kage-hime was going to receive more questions from me.

* * *

><p>So that's it for now! I'll be updating loads in the current weeks since my writer mood is back, and I do have a schedule on when to update after I'm done with a lot of my holiday homework, so stay tuned!

8. Chapter 8

**Happy New Year to everyone! (although its a little late...) but here's my new chapter. It's quite rushed since school just started, and there might be errors and incosistencies. I tried my best to construct more content, so I hope it's okay. **

Also, I do have a plan on how long this Fanfic is going to last, but It'll definitely be less than 50. I'm not sure if I'll be able to update regularly, but I'll try to update at least once per month, but I'll try to rush more chapters in early in the year, since I'm planning on running one more story.

So, enjoy!

* * *

><p>Kazanari's POV

Dammit! I was definitely going to get my revenge on that pervert. He had made me embarrass myself in front of him. I had just come out of my bath, and I was sitting out at the front near the garden, angry over Kazama. The Shiranui's garden was beautiful though. There were plants that I've never seen before. But why did they own a mansion in a city? This wasn't what an Oni would do anyway. I should ask Amagiri-nii later.

Suddenly, a man, with dark blue hair, pulled to the back and tied up in appears in front of me.

"Yo. You must be the girl Amagiri and Kazama rescued the other day! Didn't know that a kawaii ojousama would actually come to my place," he says.

"Who the hell are you?" I said, going into a fighting stance.

"Uwa! Chill dear. I'm was with Kazama and Amagiri when they found you."

"It doesn't matter whether you were with either of them, as you could be lying."

"Okay, you see, I-"

Before he could finish his sentence, I hit him in the stomach.

"Owww, I didn't know a cute girl could pack such a punch! If you

don't trust me, I'll just have to show you my powers."

The blue haired man drew a small thing made out of metal, which I believed was a gun. He was about to shoot, when Amagiri-nii came by.

"Stop fighting! Onis shouldn't be fighting with their own kind! Shiranui, keep your weapon!"

Was that guy's name Shiranui? Wait, so he was the owner of this place? My thoughts are cut short when Kyuju-nii tells me who that man was.

"Kanari, this is Shiranui Kyo, Kazama's childhood friend, and also the owner to this mansion."

"Yep, it's me, Shiranui Kyo, the person who was with those 2 when we found you! When I heard you awoke and came to my place, I definitely wanted to come! But I don't believe that such a puny girl like you had a ranking higher than me as a pureblood."

"Say puny again and I will punch you one more time."

Amagiri-nii then stands between us, and says, "Really, stop fighting already, you two!"

Thanks to him, I stopped fighting with the Shiranui guy, and Amagiri starts talking, and I listened silently.

"So, why did you come here for? I thought you had some unfinished duties with the Choushuu?"

"Ahh, that finished off quite fast. Since you told me that the ojousama was here at my place, I decided to drop by and meet her! Also, I brought some sweets for her and nee-san to eat as well!"

Wait. This guy had a sister? Unbelievable. I really wondered how his sister would be like. My thoughts are cut short when Shiranui continues.

"So, where's nee-san? She's probably in the library, soâ€|oh! Nee-san! Tadaima!"

His sister? I turned around, and I saw a very refined lady. She had blue hair, just like Shiranui's, and she was dressed in a green kimono. Her movements were elegant, and she was beautiful. Amagiri bowed a little, and asks, "Ryo-san, I thought you were returning to the library after coming out for a while? Why are you back?"

The lady immediately replied, saying, "I heard the heir to the Tsukikage was here from Chikage, so I wanted to get to know her."

Upon hearing that, I saw Kazama right behind her. The lady introduced herself as Shiranui Ryo, Shiranui's older sister, while bowing a little. I proceeded by standing up and introducing myself as well, and she said, "You can call me Ryo. After all, we are both girls, anyway!"

"Then, you can call me Kanari. It's the shortened version of my name, Ryo-san."

Soon, Ryo-san sat down, while Kazama went to a corner and just kept quiet.

"So, Kyo, what brings you back to our house when you were out meddling with humans?"

"I told you, nee-san, that helping the Choushuu was returning a favor, and once the war's over I'll cut all ties with them. Besides that, I bought some sweets back home!"

"Sometimes, I just wonder why you're my younger brother in the first place."

Shiranui then opened up the packages that he brought back, and inside it was some manju, together with some dango. Kazama who was uninterested, immediately left to his own devices. However, he look as if something was bothering him a lot. Well, whatever. I never understood how he thought anyway.

"Nee-san, Kanari-chan, get some dessert to eat!" Shiranui exclaimed, smiling. Well, I guess, that guy wasn't a mean guy.

We ended up finishing the desserts very quickly, and I spent the rest of my time talking to Ryo-san. Apparently, Ryo-san held quite a high position among the onis, and her rank was pretty close to a pureblood's, because of the vast knowledge she had.

In the midst of our conversation, Kazama came in and asked me bluntly, "Kanari, did you know about what powers the markings on your back do?"

I was angry that that guy had come, and shouted back at him, "Does it even matter to you? And you already embarrassed me enough in the bath so get out!"

Kazama plainly shook his head and left again.

Ryo-san then spoke. "He's quite a nice guy you know. You shouldn't be treating him that badly."

"Are you sure Ryo-san? That guy embarrassed me in the bath for his own amusement!"

She chuckled a little, and said, "Chikage just has a very bad attitude sometimes, but he means no harm."

"Well, I don't think so."

Ryo-san laughed a little again, and continued, "I don't I should keep you cooped up her too long. We should go tour Kyoto."

"But weren't you in hiding?"

"Well, we could go to Shimabara at night, and let the men get a drink or two, as well as meet one of my friends there are as well."

"There are oni working there?"

"You shall see for yourself if you go."

I ended up agreeing with Ryo-san's plan, and everyone at the mansion left for Shimabara in the evening, after dinner. The men had come along as well, and everyone teleported, and Ryo-san helped me since it still made me dizzy.

Upon Ryo-san's request, a room was immediately arranged for us. Suddenly, a beautiful geisha came in, calling herself Kimigiku. She was so elegant and pretty, that I felt inferior to her. This was followed by a girl who was dressed in a normal kimono, but with hair tied back, and locks of hair by her side.

"Ryo-san!" She exclaimed, but her smile soon turned into a frown at the sight of the men.

"I can't believe Kazama is with you." she said.

Ryo-san smiled as well, and said, "I'm glad to see you, Senhime, Kimigiku too. Kanari, let me introduce you to Senhime and Kimigiku."

Senhime then said, "Oh! So you're the leader of the Tsukikages? I haven't seen them much outside in society, so I never met any of them before."

"How did you hear about me?"

"News passes fast in Kyoto, and especially between oni."

Well, Senhime seemed like a very friendly girl, and turns out she was an Oni too. The sake soon came in, with the men starting to drink some.

"As per usual, the sake here is great at Shimabara!"

"Don't drink too much, Kyo. I don't want you sleeping on my lap again."

Amagiri-nii didn't drink, as usual, as he didn't like drinking at all. Instead, he left after greeting Senhime. I felt a little lonely, but I decided to spend the rest of my time here talking to Senhime. Ryo-san was drinking as well, and talking to Shiranui. However, she was busy bickering with Kazama.

"What's up with the sudden arrival at Shimabara?"

"Ryo-san invited me here, so I had no choice but to agree to her invitation."

"Let me say this again. Stop going after Chizuru! What's up with you suddenly wanting to marry so soon?"

"I was just interested in her pureblood powers. Being the last of the Yukimura family who was pretty much annihilated, she is very precious."

"Even if you wanted to marry her, could you do it in a nicer way? Abducting isn't the right thing to do."

"This issue of mine doesn't concern you. In fact, if the Shinsengumi men wanted that oni woman to themselves, I still have Kanari over."

I turned bright red, and immediately shouted, "So, you're saying that if you can't get another woman, I'm your backup?!"

"I wasn't saying that. I was just implying that if the Yukimura girl loved those Shinsengumi men so much, I could always go and court you instead."

"Who the hell would want to marry a hentai like you?!"

"I wouldn't mind taking you away anytime as long you say it."

This agitated me quite a bit, but Kimigiku came over and served me some sake, saying, "Well, I don't think Kazama means any harm to you right now."

Although she was Senhime's servant, and would always side with her, she was a geiko right now, so she couldn't say anything bad. I figured that I could get a drink here since I got the chance, since I used to drink with my family when they wanted to. Suddenly, Kazama started talking to me.

"I'm sorry about the bath incident."

What? He was apologising now? What was the meaning of this anyway? I had to answer somehow, so I spoke.

"I can't believe you're only sorry now, after embarrassing me so much."

"I just wanted to know more about you, since the Tsukikages have been so mysterious for the past few years."

"Why? Because you needed a new wife?"

"I didn't say anything like that. Well, Shimabara's sake is good as usual."

"I though you didn't really like things that humans make?"

"Sake is the best thing humans make, that's all."

"What's up with your attitude here? It's ratherâ€¦unusual."

"How does my attitude even concern you?" he said with a smirk.

Dammit. He got me there. I should have never asked him about his strange attitude in the first place. I continued drinking, and Kazama started his usual bombarding of questions.

"So, you're not going to tell me anything about yourself, except for your name, your family and where you live? Or is that all you know?"

Dammit. That guy was really persistent. No, more like, he knew I was

hiding something. I couldn't tell anyone about the Kage-hime. No, no one should know about it. This was a matter concerning the Tsukikage family only. No one else. I decided to cover it up with a big lie.

"What was that?! I do know quite a bit, okay! Besidesâ€¦I don't have much memories of my childhood."

Kazama suddenly went back into deep thought after hearing what I said, and her voice rang in my head.

"Why aren't you telling him about me, dearie? He's extremely delicious."

"Why are you talking about that man as if him you knew him?"

"Well, I- -" the Kage-hime's voice was suddenly cut off, and she weakly said, "Kanariâ€¦be carefulâ€¦there are some hereâ€¦"

"Some". I knew who those were. I had to be careful of them. They attacked me while I was bathing, so who knows what they could do now. I should leave and exterminate them.

I was about to leave the room, when Shiranui collapsed on me. This caused me to fall backwards, and land in Kazama's arms.

"You're really in love with me, aren't you?"Kazama said with a smirk.

"What?! Obviously not! This was an accident!"

"I wouldn't mind carry you all the way back like this, you know."

"Wh-what?! No! I don't need you carrying me! So put me down!"

"Fine then."

Kazama had finally put me down, and Ryo-san smacked Shiranui and made him sleep. We soon left Shimabara soon after that, and I must say, I had a good time here. However, my thoughts soon were cut when Kazama stopped.

I looked up, and those men were here. They must have traced me to the Shiranui Mansion, but they couldn't get in. However, a group of them were here now. They were clothed in white, and they were similar to the ones who attacked me at the fountain. They must have used the chance when we were leaving through the back entrance, so that they wouldn't seek so much attention.

"Tsukikage! We're not letting you go this time! You're coming with us!"

"No! I'm not going to come with you! I've decided my own way of life!"

I drew my sword, and proceeded to attack them. Kazama did so as well.

Soon, I was coordinating with Kazama to slash all the men there, when

suddenly, she spoke again.

"Use me, Kanari."

"No! Not yet! I don't need you!" I screamed in my head.

"But more of them are coming. You're going to be outnumbered at this rate. Let me be free, just for a while."

Suddenly, my heart glowed that velvet purple again. She was forcing herself out, and I couldn't stop it.

"Noâ€|"

* * *

><p>As I said, I'll try my best to update ASAP, so see you guys until the next chapter.

9. Chapter 9

**I know the updates for this story are really slow...I've been quite busy since the beginning of the year bur I'll still try to update once in a while, so that this story doesnt looked abandoned. **

* * *

><p>Kazama POV

Within seconds, Kanari's was overwhelmed by a purple light. She was coming. He had already had a good sense of how the Kage-hime's aura was like, and he knew she was coming.

"Nice to see you again, my precious one." The Kage-hime said.

"Since when did I even become your precious one?" I replied.

"Wellâ€|how about I answer that question after we clean the annoyances around us? Besides, I'm getting bored of fighting these people again and again."

"It's her!" one of the men shouted.

"Ryuuji-sama told us that if we spot the Kage-hime, we must capture her at once!" another shouted.

"It seems like these idiots just can't give up, can they? Chikage, stand back."

Before I knew it, I was pushed back by her, and the men clothed in white started saying an incantation. However, the Kage-hime was much faster than them, and unleashed her magic on them, wiping all of them out.

"You really have an interesting power, Kage-hime."

"It's nothing surprising. After all, I am the famous Kage-hime. But I gave you my real name already, why aren't you using it? I only give

my real name to people who I'm interested in, and you're one of them. Use it, Chikage."

"I don't see any reason why I have to call you by your real name when I have no interest in you at all."

"That's too bad then. Well, I still of a lot of time that I can stay in this form for a while, but I can't let anyone know my identity. I'll return for a while, and you can bring me back as well."

Without even me giving my consent, the Kage-hime had returned inside of Kanari and her body fell. I caught her before she landed on the ground.

"Why the hell am I even following her orders anyway."

I carried Kanari in my arms, and teleported back to the Shiranui mansion. Ryo-san and that idiot should already be back there, since Ryo-san teleported him back while we were fighting.

I arrived at the mansion, and was greeted by Ryo-san. Amagiri was still out, and he was probably unaware that they were attacked.

"What happened to Kanari?" Ryo-san asked.

"She was putting up a good fight, when she became drowsy and collapsed." I had to lie, since I needed to hide the secret of the Kage-hime.

"We better let her rest inside a room."

I carried her to one of rooms inside the mansion, and put her on a futon. Ryo-san then tled me out to ask what happened.

"I heard some of the men saying that they were looking for Tsukikage—are they referring to Kanari?"

"Yes. She was sent to Kyoto on a 'mission' for the Bakufu, but they were just trying to get rid of her before returning the power to the emperor, so that her family wouldn't pose a threat to them."

"That's horrible. Have they located the Shiranui mansion yet?"

"I don't think so. But who knows when they would attack."

"Chikage, tomorrow, you and Amagiri take Kanari to another part of Kyoto, before they find us."

"Yes, I understand."

After nodding, Ryo-san left me to my own devices, saying that she'll inform Amagiri when he came back. I headed to the room where Kanari was resting in. The Kage-hime was waiting there.

"You're late, Chikage." She said, "So, were you able to find any information to refresh my clouded memories?"

I sorted out my thoughts, and decided to explain certain contradictions that she had said compared to the book which I

found.

"Sealâ€|myself?" she asked.

"Yes. That was what I found out from certain information books."

The Kage-hime stayed silent for a while, and said, "It was somethingâ€|like thatâ€|I think."

I tried to tell her more, but she didn't want to reply at all, and said, "It's okay if you can't find anything. As long I have you bloodâ€|"

The Kage-hime drew in closer, and bit my neck again. Drinking my blood heartily, she grinned, and went back to rest.

"I'm not your food." I muttered under my breath, while touching the wound on my shoulder.

I had went to rest, and ended up getting up early when I heard noises of someone approaching the mansion. It was Amagiri. He had returned with news.

"The Satsuma wants us to join in the battle that is going to happen at Toba-Fushimi soon, but I declined what they wanted us to do. However, we will be acting as a messenger for the secret messages that would be passed around during the battle."

"Fine. Amagiri, we're immediately setting off, since it's becoming too dangerous to stay here anymore. Kazanari got attacked again yesterday."

Amagiri had looked at me in shock, and said, "I'll get everything ready for our departure, and we'll leave in an hour."

Amagiri had left me to my own devices before I could tell him about what to do with Kanari. I decided to head to room to check on her, and she was still resting there. Suddenly, I felt a pang of drowsiness hit me, and I felt my consciousness slowly fading away.

Opening my eyes, I found myself in a dark space, as if I was being overwhelmed by darkness. I picked myself up, and looked around me. There was nothing but darkness. Soon, a voiced called out to me.

"Chikage~" the Kage-hime said.

"For what reason did you decide to call me in here?" I asked.

"I was hoping you could come inside the place where I rest in. I'm sure Kanari won't mind anyway."

I smirked. "You call this a resting spot? Don't make me laugh."

"Well, Kanari takes up most of the space in her mind, so I take what I get. Besides, the amount of power that girl has in her is shown over there."

The Kage-hime has pointed towards a separate cloud of darkness, which was larger than where I currently was. Kanari's power was indeed a lot.

"Also, I was hoping to discuss a few things in private with you, as well."

"What would that be?" I asked.

"I feel so much nostalgia from youâ€|" she muttered.

"Nostalgia? What do you mean?"

Something had to be up. I didn't have any bloodlines similar to the Kouki. In fact, we were two different families. Come to think of it, I had to research more on the Kouki family as well. Unlessâ€|it was that personâ€|

"Chikage? What's wrong?"

"Nothing. Just thinking."

"As I was saying, after tasting your bloodâ€|, I realizedâ€|you tasted too familiar. I still remember this scent somewhereâ€|but I don't know."

However, before I could say anything, I was knocked back into reality. Waking up, I found myself with a hand mark on my face, with an angry Kanari beside me.

"You finally woke up, hentai."

"So you're going to call me a pervert now? I was just checking on you."

"Then why would you be lying down beside me?!"

I couldn't possibly tell her my meeting with the Kage-hime, and my head was still heavy from being forcefully sent into her mind like that, I decided to make an excuse.

"I was just tired." I said with a smirk, while grabbing Kanari into my arms.

"Let go!" she squealed.

"I don't want to, since I'm tired."

Kanari had continued to struggle in my tight grip. Even though she was a pureblood oni, the males were still stronger than the females anyway.

"Idiot Kazama!" she squealed while kicking me, while blushing.

"That wasn't really painful, Kanari."

"That's why, let me go! Why are you even doing this?!"

"I'm tired. Unlessâ€|you want me to do more things to you? Huh?"

Kanari stopped struggling, and soon enough, I let her go after sensing Amagiri's presence. Amagiri had come in telling us that all preparations were complete, and we were ready to set off.

We soon left after thanking Ryo-san, and we moved towards the hideout of the Satsuma. Kanari wasn't really pleased that we had to go there, but we had no choice but to go.

End
file.